

HIS MAJESTIES  
LETTER  
TO THE  
HIGH-SHERIFFE  
AND  
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE  
of the County of  
GLOCESTER.

Printed, by His MAJESTIES Command,

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to the Vniversity. 1642.





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LETTER TO THE HIGH  
SHERIFFE, and JUSTICES  
*of the Peace, of the County of*  
GLOCESTER.



R V S T Y and Wel-be-  
loved We greet you well.  
Whereas there hath been  
lately an Insurrection and  
Rebellion against Vs in  
Our County of *Glocester*,  
which hath so generally  
possessed the Spirits of  
that County ( though  
We doe acknowledge  
many Gentlemen of the  
best quality there, have with Courage retained their  
Loyalty to Vs, and have suffered with Vs, which  
We shall alwayes and particularly remember ) that  
there hath been a greater concurrence there in this

desperate Rebellion then in any County of England, insomuch that We have been compelled to send a considerable part of Our Army thither, the which it pleased God to blesse with such Successe, that We hope for the future We shall be able, by the concurrence and Assistance of You, and the rest of Our good Subjects of that County, to preserve you from the like Invasions. And to shew how farre We are from the just Sense and Indignation We might well entertaine against those, who have so wilfully fallen from their Allegiance, or concurred with the disloyalty of others, by not applying themselves to a timely prevention, We have sent Our gracious Proclamation to inhibit Our Souldiers from plundering, or using any violence to any of Our Subjects of that County, of what condition soever, and to secure them in the freedome of their Markets, that their Trade and Commerce may be renewed and continued. Yet We must Declare unto you, that We expect some reparation, and an exemplar testimony of their conversion and Affection, who neglecting Our former Proclamations of Grace and Pardon, continued still to foment this unnaturall bloody dissention, though We shall not proceed with strictnesse and severity against them; And it will not seeme just that the Charge and Burthen, brought upon the Country by the malice and connivence of such Men, should be equally borne by those who have faithfully adhered to their Loyalty and Affection to Vs, which is the Case in the Rate for the monethly Contribution agreed upon, in which all Persons of ability are equally

qually engaged, how different soever their Demour hath been; And therefore Our Pleasure is, That you, or any three of you (whereof We appoint you Our high Sheriffe to be one) call and summon together the Gentlemen, Clergy and substantiall Freeholders and Inhabitants of that Our County, to appeare before you at such times and places as you shall thinke most convenient, and move them in Our Name freely to assist and Contribute unto Vs according to their severall abilities, in these Our urgent, and important occasions, for the maintenance of the true Protestant Religion, in which they been bred, for the defence of the Lawes and Liberties to which they were borne, and for the safety of Our Person to which they have so often sworne; and as We beleeve, all well-affected Persons will be willing and ready upon this occasion to expresse their Duty to Vs, so We doubt not such, who have by weaknesse and misunderstanding, or through feare and apprehension of danger been so faire transported, as to contribute or consent to these horrid dissentions, will by their free and liberall Assistance of Vs, expresse, That their former Errors proceeded from weaknesse, not from malice. And Our Pleasure is, and We doe hereby authorize you Our high Sheriffe to receive all such summes of Money as shall be contributed unto Vs, and with the advice of the Iustices of the Peace, who shall assist you in this Service, to returne the names of all such who shall expresse their Affections to Us this way, as likewise of those whose stubbornesse and perversenesse may, in your Opinion, have an ill Influence upon the Peace and quiet of the County. And



you shall further require all the Trained-Bands of that Our County, to send in their Armes they have been charged with, to Our Magazine at *Cyrencester*, within tenne daies after the date of this Our Letter, at their utmost perill: and if any men shall excuse themselves by laying, that their Armes are already delivered in at *Glocester* or *Cyrencester*, or any other place, and therefore that they cannot obey Vs herein, you shall let them know, that We will not consent that their readinesse to obey those commands which tended to the disturbance of the Peace of that Our County, shall be any excuse for their not obeying Ours, which are for their necessary defence and safety, and therefore We shall expect that every person, within that Our County, who is charg'd with Armes, or hath found Armes by vertue of the pretended Ordinance of the *Militia*, shall within the time prefixed deliver the Armes with which he is Charged, and such who executed the *Militia*, all their Armes into Our said Magazine, except such Persons who shall sufficiently make proof before you, That their Armes were by Force and Violence taken from them by the said Rebels, and of this you shall give Us a particular Account, that We well knowing the number of Armes that Our County stands charged with, and with which private Persons have lately furnished themselves, may judge of their Affections by their Obedience to these Commands. Lastly, because the City of *Glocester*, notwithstanding Our gracious Proclamation and offer of Pardon, doth yet refuse to yeeld that submission and obedience which is due to Us, whereby We may be compelled to visit those parts with Our Army, which might else be free from

from those inconveniences, We straitly Will and Command all Our loving Subjects of that Our County, to forbear, and not to entertain any Commerce or Traffique with Our said Citty of Gloucester, neither by buying or selling, or any other offices of Neighbourhood, till the same shall returne to it's Loyalty and Subjection; which if it shall doe, We shall receive it into Our Protection, and defend it from any Assaults or violence. And you shall cause these Our Letters to be publicquely read in all the Churches and Chappels of that Our County, that all Our Subjects may know the contents thereof, and conforme themselves accordingly.

*Given at Our Court at Oxford this 12. day  
of February. 1642.*

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